

WEEK'S WORLD NEWS

With her "skin" tightened to give her two hours additional speed, the Graf Zeppelin was pushed out of her hangar at Friedrichshafen, Germany, this morning and started on her flight to Tokyo. This is the second leg in her round the world trip, under the intrepid air-dog Doctor Eckner. The Graf Zeppelin carries a crew of 41 and 20 passengers, and expects to make the 7000 mile hop without stopping. From Tokyo she will cross the Pacific to Los Angeles.

The R. C. A. radio giant, lost its suit to collect royalties from lesser radio manufacturers who were making A-C receiving sets. The Radio Corporation of America was attempting to collect twenty million dollars on back royalties.

Eastern tourists to California who have been disappointed in not being on the Pacific Coast during one of the earthquakes, were given a thrill on the home grounds this week, when earth shocks rocked five Eastern states and one Canadian province. The quake was felt from Connecticut to Ohio and from Pennsylvania to Ontario, but only slight damage was reported.

John Gilbert and Ina Claire were enjoying their honeymoon on the North Atlantic bound for Europe, when news of the death of John Pringle, father of Gilbert, reached them. The father was a veteran show man, and died in Los Angeles.

When you step to the microphone and call someone a state or to pay as much as \$5000 fine or spend one year in jail. The new radio stander and libel bill went into effect Tuesday at midnight. The new law removes the former protection given radio announcements by preceding or charges with "they say that," or "somebody told me," etc. However, if the statement made can be proven as true, the person making the charges will be freed.

Stocks took a tumble when the Federal Reserve Board raised the re-discount rate from five to six per cent. The New York board fell off 10 to 30 points.

The Pantages are in trouble. Alexander Pantage, a 17-year-old multi-city theatre man, is charged with an attack on a 17-year-old dancer, and Mrs. Pantage is charged with murder in connection with an automobile accident in which a Japanese was killed. Mrs. Pantage is accused of driving while under the influence of intoxicants. Mr. Pantage claims the charge of the youthful dancer as a "frame-up." District Attorney Byron Pitts stated that he will personally handle the case against Pantages.

When the Boulder Dam was first proposed, the big argument was that there would be no market for such a great amount of power as would be generated. Last week the Los Angeles Board of Water and Power commissioners requested Congress to build the dam twenty-five feet higher so as to increase power development to meet requests of power companies. This does the Southland grow—and power trusts change their tunes.

Rough Alleys To Be Repaired In W. Torrance

Alleys between Cedar and Madria streets, which have been in bad condition, were ordered repaired and put in serviceable shape by the City Council last evening. The request that the work be done was made by Superintendent of Streets Wm. Gascoigne, who stated that the extent of the work was such that he did not feel he should go ahead with the work without authorization from the Council. There is about 300 feet on each of the alleys, the superintendent explained that was almost impassable, causing inconvenience to residents and builders erecting houses in that district. The work of re-conditioning the alleys will be done immediately and paid for out of the street work fund, at no individual cost to the property owners on the streets affected.

"The News-Review"

will start publication on the 22nd day of August, 1929, and on and after that date will be a part of the regular issues of the Torrance Herald and Lomita News every week.

This added section of the Torrance Herald and Lomita News will contain a complete digest of Southern California news as relates to its development and affairs. The greater part of the news will be furnished the "News-Review Weekly" through the co-operation of the publishers of more than sixty newspapers published in Southern California.

This news will be accurate, carefully edited and attractively presented, and given wide circulation. It will be of interest and value to every reader, and in its presentation in this form, may justly be considered as a marked advance in weekly journalism.

The Torrance Herald

TORRANCE, CALIF., THURSDAY, AUGUST 15, 1929

5c per Copy

U. S. STEEL MEN ARRIVE TODAY

COLUMBIA OFFICIALS THROW OPEN PLANT TO INSPECTION

Bert Lanz, plant manager of the Columbia Steel Corporation in Torrance, informs this newspaper that representatives of the United States Steel Corporation arrived in Torrance this morning to inspect the Columbia properties here.

The party from the United States Steel includes auditors and other experts who are inspecting and appraising all Columbia properties preparatory to the consolidation of the two steel concerns. The party also includes several officials of the Columbia and comes here from Salt Lake City, after an inspection of the mining properties of the United States Steel in Utah. It is expected that after the work in Torrance is completed that the plants at Pittsburg, Calif., and Portland, Oregon, will be visited.

Following the inspection of all the Columbia properties on the Pacific Coast, the party will return to the New York offices of the United States Steel to make and arrange their information and put it into the form of a written report.

It is pointed out that because of the length of time required for the various audits and inspections in so many different places in the west that it will be some weeks before the final report can be completed and handed to the board of directors of the United States Steel Corporation.

On this basis, it also is pointed out, the final action of this board will not be known for at least three months. The audit and inspection is being made to determine the basis on which the two companies will be merged in the purchase of the Columbia by the United States Steel.

According to report, the purchase is not to be on the basis of an exchange of stock, but through delivery of United States Steel shares, to be converted into cash for pro-rata distribution to Columbia stockholders.

The Columbia company's funded debt consists of \$7,420,000, first mortgage 5 1/2 per cent sinking fund gold bonds and \$2,500,000 Series B first mortgage 5 1/2 per cent sinking fund gold bonds. The company has an authorized issue of \$10,000,000 in 7 per cent cumulative preferred stock on which the dividends have been paid. No dividends have been paid on the common stock.

The report of the company for the six months ended June 30 showed net income of \$1,066,737, equal to 48 cents a share on the common stock. The first six months of 1929 showed a net income of \$777,781, equal to 22 cents a common share.

TORRANCE MUNICIPAL BAND A Challenge From The People To The Spenders of City Funds

By GROVER C. WHYTE

Every resident of Torrance who heard the selections of the newly organized Torrance Municipal Band at the East Torrance Jubilee last Friday evening was justly proud of this splendid musical organization under the management of F. W. Hadler and the direction of John W. Watson. It is indeed very unusual to find such a talented group of musicians outside of metropolitan cities. Under the baton of John W. Watson, the Torrance Municipal Band has developed a remarkable degree of perfection. Their Friday evening selections ranged from stirring marches to delicate interpretations of classical numbers, each executed with marked ability; and their lively dance numbers found instant response in the swaying bodies of the three or four thousand participants in the street dance. On every hand, one could hear expressions of unstinted enthusiasm, and the crowd showed their appreciation of the music by remaining until the final number was played at 10 o'clock.

It is commendable that on the only two recent occasions when Torrance people have been given an opportunity of expressing their desire for good music that they have responded in great numbers. The Pageant of Light, commemorating the turning on of the city-wide lighting system brought upwards of 10,000 people to hear Harold Roberts' Golden State Band, and last week's East Torrance Jubilee brought out a crowd in excess of 3000 people.

Surely this overwhelming expression on the part of the people of Torrance should awaken the City Council and the Chamber of Commerce to find some means of providing regular concerts.

We can imagine no more laudable undertaking for any civic organization than to sponsor a series of concerts by the Torrance Municipal Band. The band has proven its ability, the people have registered their approval. All we need is the appropriation. And in the \$21,000.00 budget of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce for the coming year, there certainly should be ample funds to finance such a much needed civic activity.

Western Ave. Death Curve Gives Way To Broad Crossing

Definite proceedings were taken this week to eliminate the "death corner" on Western avenue and El Prado entering Torrance from the north. The offer made by the County officials not only corrects the hazardous, tilted corner and provides a broad level right-of-way across the Pacific Electric tracks, but also saves the City of Torrance \$15,000 which was to have been spent for improving a proposed and previously authorized crossing to the south of the one now planned by the County.

The plan which has been offered by County officials and which will be paid entirely (as a cash job) out of County funds can best be understood by reference to the map below.

The narrow shaded portion represents the present highway on Western avenue as it joins El Prado. This is a bad down grade and poorly banked curve, and has been the cause of many accidents or near accidents.

The County proposes to cut this grade back 200 or 300 feet north on Western avenue so as to effect a crossing of both El Prado and the P. E. tracks at level. The crossing is to be a beautiful broad roadway, 74 feet wide and will connect both the right and left hand roadways of El Prado across the Pacific Electric right-of-way. This 74 foot crossing will be a permanent job of paving and will be the crossing of the projected extension of Western avenue whenever that improvement is authorized.

The new grade on Western avenue will no doubt be a temporary rock and oil job, as it is planned to move the grade still farther north to 20th street at the time the extension of Western Avenue is authorized, at which time new permanent pavement will be laid on Western avenue north of El Prado to 20th street.

The extent of the broad level corner at El Prado and Western can be visualized when it is realized that the corner at the P. E. depot on Border is only 45 feet, whereas the new Western avenue corner is to be 74 feet wide.

Those in touch with the crossing improvement do not anticipate any difficulty in completing the plan, as the County has already agreed to pay all the expenses. However, there are a few formalities that must be carried out, the most important of which is to get permission from the Railroad Commission to change the location of the crossing to intersect with the projection of Western avenue. As the Railroad Commission has already authorized a similar crossing a few feet west (shown on map) no difficulty is expected when the request is made to move this crossing east to connect with Western avenue.

The City of Torrance has already signified its approval of the new crossing by requesting the Railroad Commission to re-open the hearing and change the location of the crossing, and also has asked the consent of the grade crossing committee of Los Angeles County, which represents the various railroads. As the Pacific Electric Railway has already agreed to the change, the consent of the committee is merely a formality.

Credit for this splendid solution of a bad situation should be given to Carl L. Hyde, secretary of the Torrance Chamber of Commerce and City Engineer Frank Leonard, both of whom have been working in harmony to accomplish this improvement. Incidentally, it saves the City of Torrance \$15,000 which was to have been spent to put in the formerly proposed crossing on El Prado, which is now unnecessary.

DINNER GIVEN BY COLUMBIA FOR BECKER

Retiring Chief Given Watch By Organization He Built

By MAMIE ROBERTS

Department heads of the Columbia Steel plant met at LaVento Inn, Palos Verdes, Saturday evening, to pay their respects to N. A. Becker, retiring consulting and efficiency engineer of the Columbia Steel Corporation. There were twenty-two present including the guest of honor and dinner was served at 7:30.

After the tables were cleared, W. Lanz, plant manager, called the meeting to order and formally introduced N. A.; not as the old consulting engineer, but as he was known to most all present, "Daddy Becker," the father of the organization assembled before him.

Mr. Becker responded by relating his experience with the corporation during the 10 years that he had been connected with it.

He told of how, with a little critical guidance, the organization had grown and developed from a small group known only to a few locally, to its present status, standing as a steel corporation with an immense output, employing thousands of men, and recognized as THE STEEL CORPORATION of the West.

His predictions were that there is a period of prosperity for Torrance, to look forward to, inasmuch as the local plant is destined to expand and will increase its production accordingly.

It was noted by everyone present that though Mr. Becker is ready and willing physically to stand on the side and watch the Corporation go ahead and improve still more, he will never lose interest in Columbia Steel, as he gave too much of his life in bringing about the present outstanding condition. It was the hardest job of his career to see the old gang—his creation—to go ahead, give the best that's in them, to produce steel, and leave him behind, "Daddy" Becker said.

Mr. Lanz, representing his co-workers, presented Mr. Becker with a token of remembrance, in the form of a gold wrist watch.

Earlier in the evening, Paul Dynes, office manager, brought forth an elaborate Mill Roll made of ice cream and formed beautifully with trimmed icing, which N. A. later ordered cut and distributed among the party.

The toast was pronounced very effectively by Mr. Showalter, the night superintendent, with Mr. Van Trosser, at the chimes. It was Eleven O'clock—and all's well—all that know N. A. will understand, as it is his hour.

Outside the Inn by the Pallo, a group picture was taken, to commemorate an occasion where a bunch of fellows were about to lose old friends, one who had been a friend indeed, one who had been a friend indeed.

At Pittsburg

Mr. Becker was also tendered a banquet at the Los Medanos Hotel in Pittsburg, California, by a hundred of his associates at the northern plant of the Columbia Steel Corporation, on August 13th.

A fine diamond ring and several pens, pencils, etc., were presented him. A unique gift was a fine watch which was set at 11 o'clock, Mr. Becker's lucky hour, and a wheel removed so that it can never run again. William Cobb, plant superintendent, presided. The banquet was strictly a plant affair and they sang songs, told stories and had a general good time.

Mr. and Mrs. Becker will leave by train the last of this week for the east, going over the Canadian route. They will spend four months touring the east and middle west.

"I plan to see at least two more of the world's series this fall," declared Mr. Becker in telling of his intentions.

After their tour Mr. and Mrs. Becker will return to Pittsburg and expect to settle down somewhere in the east bay area.

For Rent—Furnished apartments, single \$29.00, double \$30.00. Gas, water, lights included. Sam Levy, Phone 111-W, Torrance.—adv.

Cut Tall Trees On El Prado? Nay, Nay, Say Councilmen

Will the big eucalyptus trees on El Prado be removed in the near future? A petition from eleven property owners on El Prado between Mangel and Cravens Avenue was presented to the City Council Tuesday evening with the request that these trees be removed and others planted in their place.

The signers of the petition claim that the trees cause a great deal of trouble by shedding leaves so profusely. They claim that 30 minutes after raking, the lawns are completely covered again. The petition also calls attention of the council to the fact that the roots of the trees have caused an upheaving of the sidewalk on El Prado just west of the police station.

Signers feel that the trees should be removed and replaced by other trees more suitable for the street.

Those signing the petition were Leo H. Sidebotham, J. B. Scott, S. S. Worrell, F. C. Winkler, Sam Levy, E. L. Parks, E. A. Kresne, E. M. Kingsley, L. J. Acree, J. C. Smith, and the Methodist church property, signed by Reverend R. A. Young.

In a short discussion among Councilmen at the Tuesday evening meeting, Councilman Wolfe stated that he was opposed to removing any trees except where they were causing injury to sidewalks or people. Councilman Nelson also expressed opposition to the petition and moved that it be referred to the street superintendent with instructions to get an expression from other property owners on El Prado before any action should be taken by the council.

FIRE CHIEF WAXES WARM ON HOSE BID

Council Buy Municipal Brand Of Fire-Hose Against Recommendations of Chief

Considerable fire was exchanged at the Council meeting Tuesday evening over awarding bids for the purchase of fire hose. Chief Hannebrink strongly recommended the purchase of the Eureka brand whose bid was \$1.10 a foot, but the majority of the Council favored the Municipal brand which was offered at \$1.00 a foot.

Salesmen for the competing hose manufacturers put on a volley of sales arguments that recalled the hot seasons of the lightning post battle.

Councilman G. A. R. Steiner stated that he had visited some 28 cities in the Southland at his own expense in order to get a consensus of opinion on the wearing qualities of the various brands of fire hose. He said that the majority of remarks and the records of service favored the American Rubber Products Company hose, known as the "municipal" brand, and he made a motion that the \$1.00 bid for this brand be accepted.

Then followed some hot shots from Chief Hannebrink to the effect that he had been handling fire hose for the past sixteen years and that he thought the Eureka brand should be bought.

However, the Council decided against the Chief's recommendation, and gave the order to the American company. The order amounted to about one thousand dollars.

Whinglehoofed Spizzicus To Appear at Earl's

A sight you've never seen before in your whole life—and probably will never see again—awaits you in front of Earl's Cafe next Saturday evening.

It will be on display outside the cafe all evening, while inside the American Legion will be "throwing" a dance at two-bit per.

The few who know just what this strange sight will be are going around all humped up with secrecy, so in order to find out what it is, well, curiosity doesn't always kill.

Mrs. May W. Patsley of Post avenue, has as her house-guest, her aunt, Mrs. Jennie Southard from Pennsylvania.

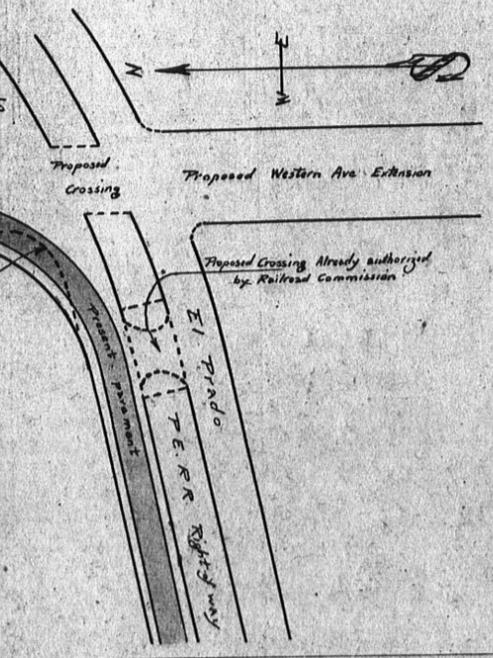
Would Prohibit Littering Lawns With Handbills

Declaring it to be his "pet" ordinance, Councilman Nelson had an ordinance of the City of San Fernando read at the meeting of the City Council this week prohibiting the distribution of handbills, and suggested that the Council give it their consideration with a view to adopting a similar ordinance in Torrance.

Complaints from property owners that their lawns and porches were being littered up with the promiscuous throwing of handbills, shopping news, doggers, and like advertising literature have been common recently, is believed to have led to the action by the Councilman. Many people also complain that the accumulation of handbills on their lawns and porches, during periods of their absence from home is an open invitation to house-breakers to enter and rob the dwellings. The fact that such papers are left on the lawns and porches is evidence to anyone that there is no one at home, and makes house robbing a comparatively "safe" crime. The proposed ordinance also prohibits the placing of advertising literature in automobiles parked along the city streets.

The proposed ordinance does not prohibit the distribution of religious, civic, or political advertising pamphlets, nor of newspapers and periodicals.

The matter was referred to the ordinance committee for investigation. Similar ordinances have been passed by a number of Southern California cities, including Ontario, Compton, Orange, Upland, Claremont, Arcadia, Huntington Beach, Southgate, Walnut Park, and Palo Alto.



Refinery Blast Kills Lomita Man and Two Former Residents

One Lomita resident and two former Lomita men were killed in an explosion that rocked the new Shell Oil Company Refinery at Dominguez Junction at 6:30 a.m., Tuesday morning, wrecking the cracking plant and threatening destruction to the whole plant and adjacent storage tanks.

E. M. Ferguson, still man, Wilmington, was killed instantly. Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson and daughter Viola, formerly resident on Sun street in Lomita.

John Y. Biddle, 33, of Lomita, died at Seaside Hospital at 11:30 the same morning, and Jeremiah Allan, 36, of Wilmington, but formerly of Oak street, Lomita, died twenty minutes later.

Others who lost their lives in the blast were: James Berners, 25, Wilmington, a still helper, and Lester Smith, Long Beach, James J. Corbett, 103 North Iran street, Redondo Beach, in in Seaside Hospital; Long Beach, suffering from major burns. Little hope is held for his recovery.

The first explosion, which shook the countryside, occurred in the cracking still when a pipe filled with gasoline leading to the still broke and the temperature of the room caused an explosion. The dead and injured were caught in the explosion which enveloped the

(Continued on Page 2)

Pay Dog Tax Now Or Lose Old Rover

Getting a haircut won't keep the dog catcher from picking up canine aristocracy next week, Jawn Stroh said yesterday. The only thing that will keep them out of trouble and dog heaven is a brand new dog license.

The license money was due August 1, being some two weeks overdue now, and Jawn threatens to get out his big shoot gun and fell every dog that hasn't a new license by the first of next week, and that doesn't mean in a couple of weeks or a month off.

So everybody trot down to the piece station right away quick and pay dog tax and then your can can remain safe by the family hearthstone.

"COP"

A speeding Cop.
A sudden stop.
Motorcycle just like new.

A damaged car.
Though not a word.
Was passed between these two.

A stitch he got.
This motor Cop.
He's just one of the few.

Just failed to stop.
'Cause he's a Cop.
But he should like me and you.

—Col. J. E. Forbes.